

# SWOSU receives Grant for Civic Partnership Initiative

01.28.2016

Southwestern Oklahoma State University recently received a \$4,000 grant from Campus Compact to establish a sustainable civic partnership initiative to improve access to higher education for underrepresented students from surrounding communities.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of nearly 1,100 colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education.

Dr. Ruth Boyd, project team leader for SWOSU, collaborated with Clinton High School staff to develop a civic partnership initiative to expand on SWOSU's vision to promote cultural inclusion and diversity through service and experiential learning activities with established community partners.

A group from SWOSU recently attended the Urban and Regional Partnerships for Civic Learning and Student Success Action Summit in Baltimore (MD).

During the summit, the team learned additional ways in which the university can be more inclusive and ease the transition from common education to higher education for underrepresented students. More importantly, students and their families will be able to build relationships with team members who are willing to advocate for students and transmit the academic knowledge and skills necessary to successfully transition to the university setting.